

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SIG-03 NASA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 OES-07 ACDA-12 L-03 /052 R

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AF/I:W.CARROLL

-----105917 150448Z/15

R 141852Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
INFO USDAO ATHENS GR
USDAO CAIRO
USDAO KHARTOUM SU
OASD WASH DC/ISA/FRMA
HQ USAF WASH DC/XOXXI/XOXXM
USAF FREQ MGT OFC WASHDC
HQ AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD/FA
4950TW WPAFB OH/DOMM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065143

E.O. 11652: ADS-DECLASSIFY UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS

TAGS: MARR, OCLR, TSPA, KE, GR

SUBJECT: ADVANCED RANGE INSTRUMENTATION AIRCRAFT (ARIA) -
NASA SEASAT

REFS: (A) STATE 012230 (DTG 171258Z JAN 78)
(B) NAIROBI 2286 (DTG 131336Z FEB 78)

1. THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
(NASA), PLANS TO LAUNCH A SEASAT SATELLITE ON 17 MAY
1978, AND HAS ASKED THE USAF TO PROVIDE TELEMETRY SUPPORT.
THE USAF PROPOSES TO USE AN ARIA OPERATING FROM PORT
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RIETZ, MOMBASA, KENYA. REQUEST EMBASSY SEEK HOST
APPROVAL FOR THE OPERATION DETAILED BELOW.

2. THE OBJECTIVES OF SEASAT A IS GLOBAL MONITORING OF
THE OCEAN WAVE TOPOGRAPHY, WAVE DIRECTIONAL SPECTRUM,
SURFACE WIND SPEED AND DIRECTION, OCEAN SURFACE TEMPERATURE,
AND ICE FIELD DATA. THE SPACECRAFT WILL BE PLACED IN A

CIRCULAR ORBIT AT APPROXIMATELY 800 KM ALTITUDE WITH AN INCLINATION OF 108 DEGREES TO THE EQUATOR. USAF HAS BEEN ASKED BY NASA TO PROVIDE TELEMETRY SUPPORT FOR THIS SATELLITE LAUNCH. SPECIALLY EQUIPPED BOEING 707 TYPE JET TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT (EC-135N) ARE SCHEDULED TO PROVIDE THIS SUPPORT. THE LAUNCH WOULD BE SUPPORTED FROM

PORTRIETZ, MOMBASA, KENYA TO A TEST SUPPORT POSITION AT 12-22S 42-00E. THE SUPPORTING AIRCRAFT WOULD RECEIVE, RECORD AND RELAY TO GROUND STATIONS THE SPACECRAFT TELEMETRY SIGNALS DURING THE ORBITAL INSERTION PHASE.

3. THE TEST SUPPORT POSITION CANNOT BE SUPPORTED FROM NAIROBI BUT ADEQUATE COVERAGE OF THE EVENTS CAN BE PROVIDED IF THE AIRCRAFT IS ALLOWED TO STAGE FROM MOMBASA. THE AIRCRAFT WOULD ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE (ALL TIMES GMT/MAY 1978).

ARRIVE -- STATION ----- DEPART

----- WPAFB OH ----- 11/1400
11/2000 LAJES AB AZORES 12/1200
14/1200 MOMBASA KENYA 17/0100
17/0800 MOMBASA KENYA 18/0500
18/1130 ATHINAI GREECE 19/0700
19/1300 LAJES AZORES -- 20/1000
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20/1630 WPAFB OH

4. THE CREW OF THE ARIA WOULD BE ABLE TO OFFER A SEAT ABOARD THE AIRCRAFT ON MISSION SUPPORT DAY TO A LOCAL HOST OFFICIAL IF THE HOST GOVERNMENT DESIRES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, SATELLITES, TRACKING STATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 mar 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: CCORDER;OASD/ISA/FMRA:T.KEENAN:DME
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Executive Order: AS UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780114-0649
Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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TAGS: MARR, OCLR, TSPA, KE, GR
To: NAIROBI
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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